

## Leaf Symmetry

### Materials:

- Leaves (three or four)
- Blank sheet of paper
- Pencil
- Colored pencils (I found these to work best)
- Scissors
- Glue or double sided tape



### Directions:

1. Cut one leaf in half vertically.



2. Glue either the left half or the right half of the leaf (your choice) to your blank sheet of paper
3. Using your pencil, draw the other half of the leaf on the paper. Include the outline of the leaf the veins inside the leaf.



- a. This is known as bilateral symmetry, when the object is a mirror image on both sides of the division line. (In this case, the midrib is our dividing line. The midrib is the main vein that runs vertically down the center of the leaf.)
4. With your colored pencil, trace over the outline you made in pencil. This will make the outline and veins stand out.
5. Color in your leaf without hiding the detail within the leaf that you made.



6. Repeat this with your other leaves on the sheet of paper.

**Visit the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden to collect a wide variety of leaves for this activity!**